

Memo to File from Adm. Showers:

16 Feb 72

Points re CIRIS

1. The system exists. It is the only existing system in the Community, and its continuation is essential for use by all members of the Community.

2. The system has been criticised in the past for being too detailed and too burdensome to data inputters. DCI Staff is sensitive to these criticisms and has responded to them in favor of simplicity to the extent possible.

3. Data calls are a "command function" meaning that DOD and each program manager can respond for his program in whatever manner he desires. For example, NSA provides a tape derived from the NSA internal data system. Thus, CIRIS represents minimum effort for NSA.

DIA, on the other hand, normally sends the data call to each unit and activity, but DIA and the Military Services do this by choice in order to procure the same data for their own use. Thus, if CIRIS did not exist, DIA and the Services would need to devise a similar data call for their purposes. CIRIS fulfills this purpose.

4. DOD is sensitive to the inability to probe the CIRIS data base where information on the CIA program is included. If this point is raised, you should be prepared to give some degree of assurance that CIA program data will be available.

5. The system is only as good as the support it provides to the users of it. In the past, DOD has generally not used the system. They should be encouraged to do so in order to prove to themselves its utility.

6. In case he does not know, Dr. Hall should be made aware that we have CIRIS under study in order to modify it further, as necessary, to make it more simple, less burdensome, and more useful. This study does not impact on the current data call, but will be applied in next year's data call.

7. Let's strive for more motion and less emotion.

16 Feb 72

(This memo prepared by Admiral Showers and discussed with [redacted] prior to latter's leaving for afternoon mtg with Dr. Hall. Admiral Showers said, also, that he phoned Red Morrison; latter said that there would be a CIRIS, not in dispute.)

DMS  
NCF)

25X1

15 February 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Admiral Showers

SUBJECT : CIRIS Instructions and Guidance for Calendar Year 72

1. This morning I gave you a black notebook containing a mock-up version of the CIRIS Instructions. This is now being printed and I should have dissemination copies in about a week. Upon receipt of the printed copies, I will send one promptly to each member of your ad hoc CIRIS review group.

2. Hearing of the meeting scheduled for this afternoon between Messrs. Tweedy [ ] and Dr. Hall, I have provided each of them with this notebook, along with a cover memorandum (attached hereto).

3. I believe that you will find from study of these instructions that we have done a good deal to simplify the understanding of CIRIS. We have included numerous examples. We have stressed the "reasonableness" of our standard for data allocation and sub-allocation. We have included some things that DIA specifically wanted (such as HUMINT/SENSITIVE). We have gone a long distance in relating CIRIS targets with DCID 1/2 Objectives. We have reflected -- through an expansion of non-military targets in CIRIS -- increasing State Department, and now Treasury Department interest in intelligence undertakings. Although the book may seem somewhat long, it is much better organized. Part of the length is attributable to the fact that it is intended, also, as an instructional text, not merely a device to guide data inputters. It also serves to present an explicit spelling out of logic in CIRIS, which is detail required for explicit work by computer programmers.

4. My hope in sending you this advance copy is that you may be able to assist Mr. Tweedy in getting the Defense CIRIS call moving. Any initiative you ~~make~~ take will be most welcome to me.

Attachment:

Memo dtd 16 Feb 72 to Mr. Tweedy

A/D/DCI/NIPE

CONFIDENTIAL